A moſt Humble REPRESENTATION In a Further Review,

(15)

ERECTING

A Pillar of Praiſe,

In acknowledgement of what GOD hath been pleaſed to Do in this Laſt

Remarkable Year.

WITH

Reaſons from thence of Expectation of a *Happy Revolution* in the Riſing of the Suffering *Witneſſes* of Chriſt, or *Proteſtants* in *France*, &c. The Fall of the *Papal* and *Ottoman* State, and the Beginning of the *Kingdom of Chriſt* in the World, ſpeedily to be brought to paſs by the *Stone cut out of the Mountains not in* Human *hands*, but to become Himſelf a Great Mountain, filling *the whole Earth.*

I Am moſt ſenſible, The great Events, I hoped this laſt Year, have not had their Complement; and that therefore, The Cenſures of many are very ſevere upon me, according to the great Rigor of Human Nature upon it ſelf in this Degeneracy of it.

But upon the Review of the whole Year, and the Events of it, which muſt needs be acknowledged to be very Extraordinary Ones; and the particular Times, in which the *Divine Providence* did advance them, I find great Reaſon of Encouragement; For it pleaſed the great LORD of *Time*, through Grace in *Jeſus Chriſt*, the Mediator of His Churches Times, the Great *Palmoni*, or Wonderful Numberer of Time; the Supreme *Apocalyptes*, to whom God gave that Illuſtrious *Prophecy* of the *New Teſtament*; *The Revelation*; to direct me in a Paper publiſhed in the Fifth Month, called, *July* to the moſt particular Preciſe Times of the greateſt of Events this Laſt Year, in both, *Old*, and *New-Stile*.

The times I fix'd upon, were, the Month of *Auguſt* from the 15*th* to the end of the Month; the 1*ſt* of *September* the Ancient *Feaſt* of *Trumpets*; the 10*th* of *September*, the Day of *Jubilee*; the *Feaſt* of *Tabernacles* from the 15*th* to the 22*th* of the ſame Month.

Accordingly on the 22*th* of *Auguſt*, *Old-Stile*, juſt on the Time of the Ceſſation of the *Empire of Rome* in the *Weſt*, (as was more fully ſet out in that Paper) and in *New-Stile*, *September* the 1*ſt*, the *Feaſt* of *Trumpets*; The *French* King comes forth, taking upon himſelf as a *Ceſar - Auguſtus*, or *Univerſal Monarch*, to *ſhut the Temple of* Janus in an *Univerſal Peace*, or, as he ſpoke, *Giving Repoſe to Europe.*

On the ſame 22*th* of *Auguſt*, *Old-Style*, and *September* the 1*ſt* *New-Style*, the *Imperial* Armies were in motion towards the *Turkiſh* Forces, and on the 31*th* *Old-Style*, That ſo extraordinary and monumental Victory was obtained over the *Grand Signior* and his *Baſhaws*.

On the 10*th* of *September*, *Old-Style*, the 20.

of *September*, *New-Style*; the *Articles* of *Peace* were Sign'd at *Riſwick*.

Theſe Things came to paſs at the very times of this Year, that had been Foretold (as hath been ſaid) in that Paper; which, as it may be ſubject to Cenſure, becauſe Things have not riſen to that height, yet ought to be conſidered and juſtify'd, in what the Year hath attained in ſuch Determinate Times for Events; That though not to the higheſt themſelves, yet contain within themſelves the Seeds, Beginnings, and Principles of theſe Higheſt, and are the Pledges, Earneſts, and Aſſurances of them; As the Peace, which the *French* King takes upon himſelf to have given, imports (however he underſtand it not) the Reſignation of *Univerſal Monarchy*; and the *Univerſal Peace* of the *Prince of Peace*: The *Mahometan Ottoman* Defeat aſſures the paſſing away of the *ſecond Wo.* viz. Of the *Ottoman Tyranny*; and That Prince coming to an end, and none to help him; His *Day*, *Hour*, *Month*, *Year*, being expired, and the Kingdom of Chriſt immediately ready to ſucceed; and therefore, the *Papacy*, on which it is a Judgment, certainly to End with it.

And though I do not pretend to have affixt the following Events to their proper Points and Times; They are yet great Events of this Year, that ought to be Recorded as ſo. The *Articles* of *Peace*, with the Empire, after a time of Suſpenſion, holding the *Peace* at ſome incertainty, were accepted by the Emperor, *Octob.* 31. and Signed *Nov.* the 1*ſt*. *New Style*, and Remarkably ſo, as if *Divine Providence* would Note the *Half time*, or an 180 Years paſt, ſince The *Reformation* by *Luther* more illuſtriouſly ſhew'd it ſelf in the Empire; who affix'd his *Antipapiſtick Poſitions* to the Church-doors at *Wittemberg* the ſame *Octob.* 31. for the ſake of the *Popiſh high All-ſaints Day* following, to be thereby made of the moſt Publick Notoriety in the *Empire*; and it gives great Hopes, ſome great Intentions of *Providence*, for the Glory of His Goſpel in the *Reformation*, and of his *Kingdom* in the Empire, are laid up in this Peace.

This Year hath produced a very obſervable Appearance of the *Czar* of *Muſcovia*, and in a Victorioufneſs over the *Ottoman Segriory*, as ſome Beginning of the *Grecian* (as we ſtile 'em) *Churches* coming out of their Ignorance, Barbarity, Slavery, according to *prophecy*; of which I would hope, the *Ruſſian* Prince is a *Firſt Fruits*, and the more for his coming into ſo clear an Air of *Proteſtancy* in this Nation; and whenever That doth come to paſs, I am Infallibly certain, the Great City *Rome* ſhall be ready to

But That, which in the laſt place, but with a Primary Intention, I Record as a great Event of this Year 97. is, That, though it is much to be Lamented, The *Proteſtant* Intereſt could not be comprehended in the Peace; and that the *Herodian* Spirit hath appeared in a time of Univerſal Peace, which ſlaughtered the Infants at one time, and at another time *ſtretched forth its hand* on the Chriſtian Church to vex and to kill; So a Perſecutory Spirit hath even, ſince the Peace, raged in the *French Monarch*: A great Remove from the Magnanimity of Chriſtian or Princely Compaſſion, that would overflow at ſuch a time towards all. Oh that there were a due ſenſe of it among Proteſtants, that are at eaſe; and that ſolemn Faſting and Prayer, without ceaſing, were made for ſuch Sufferers; *For why ſhould there be Wrath againſt Proteſtant Princes, Churches and Nations!* Who would not bewail, That *Proteſtancy*, our greateſt Priviledge, Glory, and Enjoyment, ſhould be puniſh'd on them as their only Crime! But I cannot but hope that God hath been pleaſed to ſuffer it, that it might be made Evident, that the Suffering Proteſtants beyond the Seas, who at this time, *Keep the Commandments of God*, and *Hold the Faith of Jeſus*, are thoſe *Witneſſes* of God, in whom God is pleaſed at this time, as in an *Epitome*, or Summary, to draw up the ſufferings of all the Confeſſors, and *Martyrs* under the *Papacy*, and *Antichriſtian Apoſtacy* for ſo many Hundreds of Years, before their Full, and Compleat Riſing, and the opening of his Kingdom. There is therefore a perfect *Sciagraphy*, or plat-form of the *Apocalyptick Viſion*, cap. 11. in their preſent Caſe and State.

They lye, at this time, in a Large *Breadth of the Great City*, the *Roman Antichriſtian Church*, viz. The Empire, In which the Reformation began; and more eſpecially in *France*, where ſo many Dreadful Scenes of their Maſſacres, and Perſecutions have heretofore been preſented; and in *Piedmont* and *Savoy*, where They have been (as many Faithful Hiſtorians witneſs) continued by an uninterrupted ſucceſſion of ſo many Hundred Years, as will make up the 1260. in the pure Profeſſion of the Goſpel; and however Perſecuted, they have been preſerved, as *Moſes* his *Buſh*, burning, yet not conſumed; Now in this very Year, They in this Breadth *lye dead*, (but as was ſaid eſpecially in *France*) & under *Anathemaes*, Proſcriptions, Edicts for Death, and Baniſhment, Ablegation to the *Gallies*; their Teſtimony to Chriſtianity, and their Sufferings, as it were Vying one with another.

They of the Popiſh People, and Kindreds

and Tongues, and Nations, have by their *Plenipotentiaries looked upon their Dead Bodies* to the purpose, and determined they should lye Dead: and the *Protestant Plenipotentiaries* have beheld them dead, and professed they could not help them.

They cannot yet be *Buried*, in Regard of God's Gracious Bearing up of their Spirits with Renewed Resolution, to keep up their Faith to Christ in the midst of so great Cruelty upon them; and further, There are such great Kingdoms, and States, that *Standing upon their feet*; that is, subsisting upon their own Strength, Authority, Laws, and Government; Avow the same Profession publickly, in defiance of *Papal Powers*, whatever, and so are called *Protestants*, or open Avowed *Witnesses*.

They that *dwell upon the Earth*; The Popish Princes, and States, The *Ecclesiastick Head*, which the Scripture calls The *Beast*, as the *Image* of Ancient Empire, have sent their Compliments of Congratulation and Joy, and their Gifts, and Presents, one to another, upon the suppressed State of *Protestancy* so far, as they have attained; and what Alliances they are forming further, if the *Stone cut out of the Mountains* should not surprise them, Time would Discover: And that they may think themselves more secure, & That they are still to continue, Providence hath given them the returns into that *Adulterous Bosom*, of one of the *German Electors*, in the Court and Territories of whose Predecessors, Protestancy had its first Protection; that *Babylon* may say, *I sit a Queen, and am no Widow, and shall see no sorrow, and thus, Her Plagues may come in one hour*. For therefore I Record these as signal Events of this Year, because I look upon all these as signs of the Time, God hath ordained, when the *Spirit of Life from God shall enter into the Witnesses*; their whole time of 1260 Years of *Sackcloth Prophecy* being expired; and their present posture, such as Prophecy hath described it at their Rising and Deliverance.

But it is yet a most Remarkable Event of this Year. That God hath been pleased, this Year, by the *Peace*, to place it, as an *Honour*, upon the King, as *Prince of Orange*, to provide that His Principality, as a Sanctuary; that his Witnesses there may not only *not be Buried*, but not so much as *lye Dead*; but their Profession be born up there, when in Regard of the Severity of the Persecution, they *lye Dead* in other parts of that Nation. And in Regard, it is a Restoration of the Freedoms of *Protestancy*, where the *Persecution* before the Peace, had equally made its Inrodes, as on the other parts of the *Kingdom of France*; It bears the face of a *Resurrection*; and the Return of their *Four Pastors* thither in so solemn a manner, out of their Imprisonment at *Lyons*, as is related in their Letter (*) to the *Pastor* of the *Walloon* Congregation at *Rotterdam*, (I hope most Authentick) carries the very Type of a *Spirit of Life from God, entring into them, setting them on their Feet*, and *A Voice from Heaven, saying, Come up hither*, Their *Enemies beholding them*; and many Papists so moved, as *to give Glory to the God of Heaven* by Conversion to *Protestancy*. All which, is both an Earnest, and pledge, and Assurance of the *Resurrection of the Witnesses* in general, speedily to go on; And one may even say, They have begun to Rise; and I cannot but hope, hereby God hath made the King, whom the Enemies have called in contempt, *Prince of Orange*, The *Prince of Orange le Grand!* and on this very Account, as on others, *A Signet in God's own Right Hand*.

(*) *Monthly Account of the Affairs of Europe, Compiled February.*

But it ought not to be omitted, that God hath been pleased by a Spirit from himself, now in the Close of the Year, to set a further mark of Honour upon it; the Unanimous Address of the *Honourable House of Commons* for the Honour of *Jehovah*, in a Reformed Nation and accepted with such a Zealous Chearfulness by the King in so great a *Proclamation*: This is, I hope, laid up, as Scripture expresses it, as a *Memorial* before *the Lord in his Temple*, for the Glory of the King, and Parliament, in his approaching Kingdom; It being a Testimony for God unparallel'd, since what is stiled, *The Restoration*; and looks as if those earnest Motions for Reformation, that have been at any time before, since the *Reformation* from *Popery*, were Reviving by joint Supreme Authority, near to *The Restitution of all things*.

Now, by way of Reflection upon all these Impresses of Divine Providence, upon this Year 97. which being so many, and all clear Matter of Fact, cannot be supposed to be by chance, I cannot but Remonstrate; That tho' Things are not Ascended to the Heights I had hoped and expected, yet, it cannot be denied, God hath not left this Year Destitute, Naked, or *without Witness* from Himself, and that He hath, in an Eminency, Graced those very particular Times in this Year, I had singled out, as designed, by Prophecy, for Engravings upon with Effects of Divine Power, and Goodness.

Now, whatever hath come to pass this Year, of so great Remark, and so agreeable to Prophecy, deserves some of that *Asterisk* upon it, that was set on the Year of the Lord's Death

and Resurrection, and of the *Mission* of the Holy Spirit, Remarking it *That Year*, and *That same Year*, on occasion of that so Memorable Prophecy of *Caiaphas*, their High-Priest that Year, as Productive of it, and Impelling it: In like manner these things have come to pass, this Great Prophetick Year 97. because *This same Year*.

And as In a Wonderful Resemblance of *Caiaphas*, and his Prophecy, I cannot but look upon that *Oracular* Acknowledgment of the *French King*, as what he was Impell'd to, on the Account of his being permitted; and so far upheld by Providence, to take upon himself, as an *Universal Monarch* in the Peace, *This same Year*. He Writing to the Arch-Bishop of *Paris*, in desire of the Popish *Te Deum*, as a Thanksgiving for the Peace with the Emperor: Thus begins: *COUSIN, THE TIME, WHICH HEAVEN HAD ORDAIN'D, FOR THE RECONCILIATION OF THE NATIONS IS COME.* I hope This is Prophetical of the Reconciliation of all Nations by the *Kingdom* of the *Prince* of *Peace*.

How, therefore, God will please to promote these Beginnings, thro' this following Year 1698. (Being very positive the 1260 Years of the Delay of the Kingdom of Christ there expired) *viz.* Beginning at the *Apocalyptick Epoch*, the time of our Lord's Resurrection, Ascension, and Mission of his Spirit; Down to the time of the Cessation of the *Roman* Empire; Month the *6th*; Then on the *Feast of Trumpets*, *Jubilee*, and *Feast of Tabernacles* in the *7th* Month; I will not *Pronounce*, but Humbly *Wait* with greateſt Hope, and Expectation from Him, who *Magnifies his Word above All his Name*.

For I am humbly Conscious to my self, whatever Thoughts Any may have, I have not Rashly, or Rudely, seiz'd on the Time of the Last, and of this Year, as the Time of the Great Revolution I expect for the *Kingdom of Christ*; but I have, through the Grace of the *Wonderful Numberer*, and through His Redemption, extending it self to every Thing of His Kingdom, that is *the Kingdom of Redemption*; drawn a *Line of Time*, according to the Scriptures, made Illustrious with the greateſt Events that have been known in the World; coming down to this very Time from *Solomon's* Death, the very Time where *Prophetical Time* begins, and goes in a strait Line ευθυς or expressly, for the space of seven 390's, or 2730 Years, *viz.* the Changes made upon the Ancient People of God, the *Ten Tribes* and the *Kingdom of* Judah, in their *Desolation*; the *Babylonian*, *Persian* and *Monarchies*; the *Roman Empire*, and the Changes, and Revolution of it; which in gard of the coming of the *Messiah*, *His Resurrection*, and *Ascension* the *Mission* of *Spirit*, and the *Preaching* of the *Gospel* to *Gentiles* falling within it; is of all other most Remarkable (next to that of Subject of *Prophecy* in the *Old*, and *Testament*; and hath dependent upon it Great Revolution of so great a part of World coming under the Name of Jesus Christ But imediately attended with the Dark *Eclips* of *Antichristianism*, Styled very justly *Romanism*; The time of which *Prophecy* is so Intent upon, as to have given ten times the exact measure of, and in all kinds of Characters: On which Follow the Dreadful Judgments of God in Revenge of such a Traterous Undermine of his *Kingdom*. In letting out the *Barbarous Nations* to Ravage upon *Rome*, and to Break in peices the *Empire* into Ten (or a variety of) *Kingdoms*, Intoxicated into *Papal* Subjection. Then came *Mahometanism* with it *Two Woes*, the *Saracens* and the *Turkish Ottoman Power*, which hath seated it self in the Room of the *Grecian Empire*, and in it's very Metropolis, or at *Constantinople*; All which is become a very great part of the *History* of the *Later Times*; And since that, The *Reformation* by *Luther* which hath made so great a Change in the *Papal* State, and the Kingdomes of Europe in General. Now all these, I have Adjusted to their most Lively *Types* in *Prophecy*, and to their most exact Scituation, in what I look upon to be the Express *Prophetick Line of Time*, or *Prophetic Chronology*; And with such Attestations of General *History*, and *Chronology*, (especially in some most Eminent Joynts of Time) so undoubted, as thereby to assure in what may seem more Dark and Doubtful; and all to this day; That I am sure, The most Learned and Sagatious cannot draw such another *Line*, so Justly seated, and so supported.

But however, or whenever These things shall appear, I will not Fail Inceſſantly to Cry out with the *Spirit* and the *Bride*, and to provoke *him that heareth to say*, **Come Lord Jesus, Come quickly in thy Kingdom.**

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